

REMARKS

This is a response to the Advisory action mailed June 23, 2006. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Present Status of Patent Application

The Advisory action mailed June 23, 2006 indicates that the claim amendments submitted earlier by Applicants have not been entered. Consequently, Applicants are hereby re-submitting the amended claims and additionally canceling previously submitted amended claim 5.

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 22-27 remain pending in the present application. More specifically, claims 22-25 have been currently amended with no introduction of new matter; and claims 1-21 have been canceled. Applicants have canceled these claims merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

A. Allowable Subject Matter

Examiner's Statement

Examiner has indicated in the final Office action dated April 6, 2006 that claims 22 and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Examiner's Statement

Applicants wish to place on record their gratitude for Examiner's indication that claims 22 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have currently rewritten claim 22 in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 21 from which it depended directly. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request allowance of rewritten claim 22.

Claim 24 has been rewritten to depend indirectly on claim 22. Because claim 22 is currently allowable, dependent claim 24 is also allowable as a matter of law. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Consequently, Applicants respectfully request allowance of rewritten claim 24.

B. Claim Objections

Statement of the Objection

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 16 of the claim “susbtrate” should be replaced with --substrate--. Appropriate correction is required.

Response to the Objection

Claim 1 has been currently canceled. Hence, Applicants respectfully assert that the objection has been rendered moot.

C. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Statement of the Rejection

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,640,048 to Selna.

Response to the Rejection

Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been canceled without prejudice, waiver or disclaimer. Consequently, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of these claims has been rendered moot.

D. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Statement of the Rejection

Claims 5 and 11-21, 23, 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Selna.

Response to the Rejection

Claims 5 and 11-21

Claims 5 and 11-21 have been currently canceled with no prejudice, waiver or disclaimer. Consequently, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of claims 5 and 11-21 has been rendered moot.

Claims 23, 25-27

Because claim 22 is allowable, claims 23 and 25-27 that depend directly or indirectly on claim 22 are also allowable as a matter of law. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection, followed by allowance of Claim 23 and 25-27.

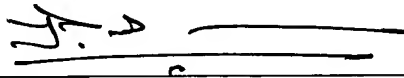
Prior Art Made of Record

The prior art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that claims 22-27 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative at (404) 610-5689.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on August 4, 2006



Signature
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